Published by vic ☽ dagger (sebsol #1 fan)
published 3 hours ago
updated a few seconds ago

Category: Web, HTML, Tech

View Blog
View Profile
Report Blog Entry

[Feb 17, 2026] Platforms to may or may not use before the dreaded Discord update

[edit] [delete] [pin to blog]

due to the new Discord update rolling out in March this year, it causes some privacy issues.

if you haven't heard, discord will need a face scan or a picture of your ID to get full access to the service. all accounts will be defaulted to teen by default if you haven't verified your age, however the teen level restricts features.

this in of itself is bad practices, as discord says that it's to enforce the safety of children online, but there is one glaring issue. predators can just not verify, and so by doing that, *the predators can just box themselves in with teenagers.* it's the same issue with the roblox age level thing. if you make boxes for ages which anyone can access, then is that really safety?

"*We use age prediction to determine, with high confidence, when a user is an adult.*" - discord, in an official article

what is age prediction? most likely, it's an ai model. wait, it is an ai model. quoted from the same article as above:

"*We leverage an advanced machine learning model developed at Discord to predict whether a user falls into a particular age group based on patterns of user behavior and several other signals associated with their account on Discord. We only use these signals to assign users to an age group when our confidence level is high; when it isn't, users go through our standard age assurance flow to confirm their age. We do not use your message content in the age estimation model.*"

if they don't track messages, then do they track servers? that seems quite strange to me. most likely, they'll track connections (linked roblox, steam, and other game accounts). but even then, that could still be innacurate. there are adults who play roblox. there are kids who play valorant. just guessing makes things worse.

"*Our vendors perform these verifications in a way to minimize the data collected and stored. For FAE, the video selfie is processed on device and never stored. IDs are processed to get your age only and then deleted. Your identity is never associated with your Discord account.*"

from what i can tell, one of the vendors' CEOs is a Doomsday cultist, worked with ICE to tracked immigrants, and works with Palantir, a service that specializes AI in government and military use.

that's not even the worst part-- Thiel has had some connection to Epstein. why would discord partner up with someone in the files?

the privacy is questionable at the least as well, as there have been many data breaches in discord's database, including one having ID pictures. this is just one of many data leaks, and poses a great obstacle for discord's ability to go through with this update.

---

apologies for rambling, but now that i have told you my reasoning as to why you should log off discord, here are the actual alternatives that i have seen. all platforms listed support online communities (including moderation) and direct messaging.

i link the privacy policy and terms of use/service seperately so that you can decide if you want to use it. i recommend that you read both or at least one of them

Fluxer

⚠️ I haven't tried this one yet. I am going off of screenshots and official statements.

Supports: image sharing, custom emojis + themes, voice + video, message search, self hosting, bots

ToS | Privacy

the geographical part of the privacy policy creeps me out a bit, but that's probably because i don't get it

Fluxer looks promising to me, however, there is a thing that i don't quite get with the community guidelines.

"*If you are under 18, you must not engage with, share, or distribute any sexual or sexually suggestive content.*"

this guideline is very vague; does it include or exclude jokes and understanding your sexual orientation? if so, then how? the sexual part makes sense, sure, but why not the suggestive part? yes, i may be a teen saying this, but a lot of teens are going through puberty. and a lot of teens get hormonal. quite odd to me

Stoat.chat

Supports: image sharing, custom emojis + themes, voice, message search, self hosting, bots

ToS | Privacy

only has the needed things like IP, email, and password-- this is the one i use

Stoat's community guidelines are fair, but there are barely any big, active servers like on discord. this is bound to happen with a similar look as discord, but i know that the communities on there will grow. it's open-source, and is very customizable with the themes. there's no sense of premium on stoat, so you can use any emoji anywhere! really cool

if the stoat.chat signup doesn't work through the new domain, try https://app.revolt.chat. add */login* at the end if you don't have an account yet

Root

⚠️ I haven't tried this one yet. I am going off of screenshots and official statements.

Supports: image sharing, custom stickers, voice + video, bots, a... task tracker??

ToU | Privacy

in 6.2 of the terms of use, i found this:

"*To operate and provide the Service, you grant Root our affiliates and service providers, and each of our respective licensees, successors, and assigns a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free, sublicensable, and transferable license to use, reproduce, modify, perform, display, distribute, and otherwise disclose to third parties any such material for any purpose.*"

otherwise disclose to third parties any such material for any purpose is a bad sign. they won't use your messages and activity when they need it, no, they'll use it whenever they want. that's really weird and can lead to misuse of a user's activity.

then, in the privacy policy, root says this:

"*We collect the personal information and content of communications that you disclose through the Service. This may include messages, pictures and files shared between users and within communities. We may also collect voice, video or screensharing "calls" between users and within communities.*"

yeah no that's very weird. i do not know why they'd collect these information, but they really shouldn't.

the community guidelines for root are like stoat. i personally suggest you not use root because of the statements they made above

Matrix

Supports: image sharing, custom themes, voice + video, self hosting

matrix is a federated service so i couldn't really find the ToU nor Privacy pages. however i have tried it before, and it is fine. i used to use the fluffychat client which was very customizable

Signal

⚠️ I haven't tried this one yet. I am going off of screenshots and official statements.

Supports: image sharing, custom themes, voice + video

Terms + Privacy

this is probably the most simple and encrypted one out of all of these! i know some guys who use this, they say it's great

---

so, if you want a simple and secretive messenger, use signal! if youre an adult or a minor that doesn't talk about suggestive things, use fluxer! if you want a similar experience to discord that isn't restricting, use stoat!

0 Kudos

Give 1 Kudos. — Give 2 Kudos

Comments

Displaying 0 of 0 comments (View all | Add Comment)

Add a Comment

Disclaimer: This is a fan-based project and is not affiliated with MySpace® in any way.

©2020-2026 SpaceHey.com All Rights Reserved.